

CAPITOL OFFICE  
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 4081  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TEL (916) 651-4002  
FAX (916) 323-6958

# California State Senate

SENATOR  
**PATRICIA WIGGINS**  
SECOND SENATE DISTRICT



STANDING COMMITTEES:  
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES  
RETIREMENT  
CHAIR  
BANKING, FINANCE &  
INSURANCE  
ENERGY, UTILITIES &  
COMMUNICATIONS

SELECT COMMITTEES:  
CALIFORNIA'S WINE INDUSTRY,  
CHAIR

July 25, 2008

Douglas Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Grant Application of Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District  
Moore Creek Open Space Park Acquisition

Dear Chair Bosco:

I am pleased to express my strong support for the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District's request for a grant of \$1,650,000 from the San Francisco Bay Program of the State Coastal Conservancy to assist in the acquisition and improvement of 673 acres of open space in the Moore Creek watershed.

The requested grant is for the type of project the voters expected when they approved Proposition 84, and will help the District achieve multiple goals identified in the Napa County General Plan.

The acquisition will protect drinking water quality by protecting three miles of perennial Moore Creek, which flows in Lake Hennessey, the major source of water for the City of Napa. It will preserve an area which has been identified as a high priority area for biodiversity within Napa County by the science-based non-profit organization NatureServe. It connects to 2,800 acres of watershed owned by the City of Napa, and is also adjacent to 772 additional acres of private open space protected by conservation easements.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Wiggins".

PATRICIA WIGGINS  
Senator, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.

VALLEJO DISTRICT OFFICE  
444 GEORGIA STREET  
VALLEJO, CA 94590  
TEL (707) 648-5312  
FAX (707) 648-5383

NAPA DISTRICT OFFICE  
1040 MAIN STREET, SUITE 205  
NAPA, CA 94559  
TEL (707) 224-1990  
FAX (707) 224-1992

SANTA ROSA DISTRICT OFFICE  
50 D STREET, SUITE 120A  
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404  
TEL (707) 576-2771  
FAX (707) 576-2773

UKIAH DISTRICT OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 785  
UKIAH, CA 95482  
TEL (707) 468-8914  
FAX (707) 468-8931

EUREKA DISTRICT OFFICE  
710 E STREET, SUITE 150  
EUREKA, CA 95501  
TEL (707) 445-6508  
FAX (707) 445-6511

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JUDICIARY

## SUBCOMMITTEES

BUDGET #3: NATURAL RESOURCES

## SELECT COMMITTEES

CALIFORNIA WINE, CHAIR  
FOSTER CARE

# Assembly California Legislature



**NOREEN EVANS**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SEVENTH DISTRICT

August 6, 2008

STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 942849  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94240-0007  
(916) 319-2007  
FAX (916) 319-2107

SANTA ROSA  
50 "D" STREET, SUITE 301  
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404  
(707) 546-4500  
FAX (707) 546-9031

VALLEJO  
1713 SONOMA BOULEVARD  
VALLEJO, CA 94590  
(707) 649-2307  
FAX (707) 649-2311

NAPA  
1040 MAIN STREET, SUITE 205  
NAPA, CA 94550-2605  
(707) 258-8007  
FAX (707) 258-8205

EMAIL: [assemblymember.evans@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:assemblymember.evans@assembly.ca.gov)  
Website: [damocris.assembly.ca.gov/members/907](http://damocris.assembly.ca.gov/members/907)

Douglas Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612  
By Facsimile (510) 286-0470

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I urge your support for a \$1.65 million grant to the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District to assist in the acquisition and improvement of 673 acres of open space in the Moore Creek watershed.

The grant will assist the District implement several natural resource and recreation priorities adopted in Napa County's General Plan, the priorities of the San Francisco Bay Program, and the purposes of Proposition 84.

With 772 acres of adjacent open space protected through conservation easements and 2,800 acres of watershed owned by the City of Napa, the acquisition will ensure the preservation of valuable contiguous habitat in an area of high biodiversity. It ensures the protection of three miles of Moore Creek, and much of the Moore Creek watershed.

The acquisition also provides for nature-based recreation in an area of exceptional scenic beauty close to where most Napa residents live and work. Visitors will be able to access new campgrounds and miles of trails. The property has 2.8 miles of trails and the potential for an additional 3.5 miles on-site. If developed, these trails will open up 3.7 miles of trails on adjacent public land not currently accessible to the public. This will serve as a critical link in the proposed Napa Crest Trail, which is identified as a priority in the Recreation and Open Space Element of Napa County's General Plan.

I encourage your support for this important grant request. If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Yours very truly,

NOREEN EVANS  
Assemblymember, 7<sup>th</sup> District

NE:am

cc. Amy Hutzler, Program Manager

Board of Directors, Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District  
Board of Supervisors, County of Napa





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NAPA CO. CONSERVATION  
DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING DEPT.

July 25, 2008

Douglas Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Proposition 84 San Francisco Bay Program Grant Request  
Moore Creek Open Space Park

Dear Chairman Bosco:

On behalf of The Land Trust of Napa County, I would like to add our support for the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District's application for a grant of \$1,650,000 to assist in the acquisition and improvement of 673 acres of open space in the Moore Creek watershed.

This is an exciting acquisition. This property was identified as a high priority area for biodiversity through a countywide analysis conducted on behalf of The Land Trust in 2003. It includes a richly diverse mixture of Douglas fir and oak woodlands, grasslands, riparian habitat, rock outcrops and chaparral. Our organization holds conservation easements on 772 acres of adjacent open space. The proposed acquisition will, in combination with those easement-protected properties and an additional 2,800 of City of Napa-owned watershed lands, ensure the preservation of a significant area of core habitat.

The property shares nearly one mile of boundary along Moore Creek with the properties over which The Land Trust holds conservation easements. Acquisition of this property is critical to preserving water quality in Moore Creek, which flows into Lake Hennessey and provides drinking water to City of Napa residents.

The Land Trust appreciates the opportunity to work with the new Park and Open Space District on a project that will provide for public access and public use. We look forward to partnering with the District to create opportunities for public recreation that cannot be undertaken by a private land trust.

The Land Trust of Napa County encourages you to approve this grant request.

Sincerely,



John Hoffnagle

cc: Board of Directors, Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District  
Board of Supervisors, County of Napa  
Amy Hutzel, Bay Program Manager, State Coastal Conservancy

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[www.napalandtrust.org](http://www.napalandtrust.org)



July 22, 2008



1303 Jefferson Street  
Suite 500B  
Napa, California  
94559

Phone:  
707.252.4188 ext. 100

Fax:  
707.252.4219

Email:  
staff@naparcd.org

Web:  
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Douglas Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

**Subject: Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District  
San Francisco Bay Program Matching Grant Request**

Dear Chair Bosco:

The Napa County Resource Conservation District encourages you to support the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District application for a 50% matching grant of \$1,650,000 to assist in the protection and improvement of the Moore Creek watershed.

Our Resource Conservation District has been working for many years to assist private and public land managers in the conservation of natural resources, protection of water quality, and restoration of riparian habitats in Napa County. The proposed acquisition of 673 acres in the Moore Creek watershed will mark a significant step forward in achieving these goals.

Moore Creek is a major tributary flowing in to Lake Hennessey, which is the main source of drinking water for City of Napa residents. As a perennial creek, it supports a healthy population of rainbow trout, and provides valuable habitat for numerous species of birds, mammals and amphibians. The proposed acquisition includes 2.2 miles of perennial creek, is on the boundary of another 0.8 miles of perennial creek, and also includes 1.2 miles of intermittent creek. Overall, it contains three miles of high quality riparian habitat characterized by dense stands of white alder, maple and buckeye. In combination with conservation-easement protected properties immediately to the west, this acquisition will ensure the permanent protection of most of the Moore Creek watershed.

The acquisition of this property, and its operation as an open space park with overnight camping, will also provide a unique opportunity for youth-oriented environmental education. Such opportunities are sorely lacking in Napa County.

I urge your support of the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District's request.

Sincerely,

Leigh Sharp  
District Manager

cc: Amy Hutzal, Bay Program Manager  
Board of Directors, Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District  
Board of Supervisors, County of Napa





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July 31, 2008

Douglas Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District Grant Request

Dear Chair Bosco:

On behalf of the Napa Group of the Sierra Club, I am writing to express our tremendous support of the proposed acquisition of 673 acres of beautiful open space in the Moore Creek watershed, and encourage you to approve the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District's request for \$1,650,000 in matching grant funds.

We are excited about both the natural resource protection and outdoor recreational opportunities which the requested grant will support. Napa County has very few natural places accessible to the public, where people can learn about and enjoy our beautiful environment. The proposed Moore Creek Open Space Park is close to where most Napa residents live, and is centrally located to serve all of the people of and visitors to Napa County, yet by virtue of its topography and history retains a scenic naturalness difficult to find in Napa County. It will make a great regional open space park.

The Moore Creek property is exceptional in that it simultaneously achieves many goals of the environmental community. It is an area of high biodiversity, containing several different plant communities in close proximity. It will in combination with adjacent protected lands provide a large, healthy ecosystem of significant habitat. It is the key to protecting water quality in Moore Creek, a major tributary flowing into Lake Hennessey. It can support tent camping and tent cabins, both of which are in short supply in Napa County. It will be a great place for families and children, for learning about the environment, and for nature-based recreation at all levels of difficulty.

In 2006 we joined with other community leaders and environmentalists to support the creation of the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District in the hopes of achieving exactly what

### Exhibit 3: Project Letters

this project has to offer—protected, accessible natural places close to home. The Napa Group of the Sierra Club strongly requests your help in establishing Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District's first open space park.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Elisabeth Frater', written in a cursive style.

Elisabeth Frater  
Chair

cc: Amy Hutzal, Bay Program Manager  
Board of Directors, Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District  
Board of Supervisors, County of Napa

August 5, 2008

Douglas Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: Moore Creek Open Space Park  
San Francisco Bay Program Grant Request

Dear Chair Bosco:

The Napa Valley District of the Boy Scouts of America enthusiastically supports the request of the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District for a grant of \$1,650,000 to assist in the creation of the 673 acre Moore Creek Open Space Park.

Napa County is very deficient in places where Napa Valley District Mount Diablo Silverado Council Boy Scouts of all levels from Cubs to Venture Explorers as well as Learning for Life members and can hike, camp and learn outdoor skills. The proposed Moore Creek Open Space Park is a great opportunity for addressing this deficiency in a location which is wild and scenic yet close to where our scouting families live. Moore Creek can be utilized as a year around facility for all North Bay Area Scouters and their families. The Boy Scouts and their unit leaders will supply regular community service hours to provide year around maintenance of the area. The Mount Diablo Silverado Council and it's eleven districts( Napa Valley being just one of them) are currently searching for open space environs to extend the camping opportunities for all their membership. Moore Creek is ideal for this outdoor adventure.

With the potential for camping, over six miles of existing and proposed trails on-site, plus the ability to make accessible another nearly four miles of trails on adjacent public land, Moore Creek Open Space Park will be ideal for scout outings. The acquisition will also be a huge step toward implementing the Napa Crest Trail. With this acquisition, only a 4,000 foot gap in public and land trust owned properties or rights of way will remain in creating a 25 mile trail through the mountains east of the Napa Valley extending half the north-south length of the Valley.

This project also gives us an exciting opportunity to be involved in designing and improving the park from the outset. It is an ideal chance to build leadership skills as well as hands-on experience. All Boy Scout leaders in the area will be able to extend their training providing outstanding program for all youth that they serve. With improved hands on learning, the Boy Scout program will grow and improved membership will be one of the results.



Exhibit 3: Project Letters

With your help, Moore Creek Open Space Park will become one of the premier nature-based recreation destinations in Napa County.

Sincerely,

Jeff Johnson  
Assistant District Commissioner  
Eagle Scout Advisor  
Boy Scouts of America  
Napa Valley District, Mount Diablo Silverado Council

cc: Board of Directors, Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District  
Board of Supervisors, County of Napa  
Amy Hutzler, Bay Program Manager



Douglas Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District  
San Francisco Bay Program Matching Grant Request

Dear Chair Bosco:

The Eagle Cycling Club is pleased to offer its support for the request by the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District for a matching grant to help with the acquisition of 673 acres of open space and the creation of the Moore Creek Open Space Park.

Our club is eager to have more places where our members can responsibly mountain bike. The proposed Moore Creek Open Space Park would offer many miles of scenic and challenging cycling. It is also a critical step in creating an incredible system of trails appropriate for mountain bicycling; with this acquisition, only a 4,000 foot gap will remain to be closed in order to open a system of old jeep trails appropriate for mountain bicycling that will extend through the mountains east of the Napa Valley all the way to the Oat Hill Mine Trail, then on to either Calistoga or Aetna Springs—a distance of about 25 miles.

Napa County has very few off-highway routes for our increasingly popular—especially with youth and young adults—form of outdoor recreation. Providing more places for mountain bicycling is important for engaging the next generation of leaders with the outdoors, which is essential for building the public support needed if we are to protect our remaining open spaces.

The Eagle Cycling Club encourages you to support this grant request.

Sincerely,

  
Scott Thomason  
Eagle Cycling Club, Treasurer

cc: Amy Hutzler, Bay Program Manager  
Board of Directors, Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District  
Board of Supervisors, County of Napa

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OAKLAND, CALIF.

### Exhibit 3: Project Letters

Douglas Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District  
San Francisco Bay Program Matching Grant Request

Dear Chair Bosco:

The Napa County Bicycle Coalition is pleased to offer its support for the request by the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District for a matching grant to help with the acquisition of 673 acres of open space and the creation of the Moore Creek Open Space Park.

The Napa County Bicycle Coalition is a non-profit bicycle advocacy group seeking to improve the health and quality of life of residents of Napa County by promoting bicycling for transportation and recreation. We promote a bicycle and pedestrian friendly Napa County through facility implementation, policy changes, education and the encouragement of bicycling and walking for all its residents.

The proposed Moore Creek Open Space Park would offer many more miles of scenic and challenging cycling and hiking and help create an incredible system of trails. Napa County would benefit greatly from this acquisition and be able to offer more opportunities for outdoor recreation for all its residents.

The Napa County Bicycle Coalition encourages you to support this grant request.

Sincerely,

Wendy Hilberman, Executive Director  
Napa County Bicycle Coalition



August 1, 2008

From:  
Pope Valley Ropers and Riders  
P.O. Box 1  
Pope Valley, CA 94567

To:  
Mr. John Woodbury  
The Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District

Dear Mr. Woodbury,

It was a pleasure to visit the proposed Moore Creek Open Space Park. We feel it is a nice property best suited to its' beautiful natural state and for public use as a recreational area for hikers, equestrians and bicyclists.

We would like to let you know that our organization, the Pope Valley Ropers and Riders support your plans in this endeavor. We wish you the best.

Sincerely,  
Lettie Smeding  
President  
Pope Valley Ropers and Riders